

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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CLERK: Senator Preister would move to amend the committee amendments with AM1318. (AM1318 appears on page 1456 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Preister.

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you, Honorable President. I do have an amendment here that is one that would add additional clarity for those who may still have questions. The amendment, I believe, is redundant, but I will, for the sake of understanding, simply read it: "It is the intent of the Legislature that the reporting requirements of the Nebraska Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act are to be...", and this is the important part, "...no more stringent than the reporting requirements than the Emergency Planning Community Right to Know Act pursuant to Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 as amended." It also strikes the word "fees". There was some concern by some of the industry because they still were just a little uncertain, after all the discussions, that perhaps there was something that was a more stringent requirement for reporting or additional reporting. That is absolutely not the case, and this amendment just gives a little comfort level beyond what we've already done to any of those people. The reason that "fees" is struck is because there was some concern that perhaps we were attempting to implement an actual tax or fee structure to implement the program. That is not the case. It was not the intent, and so we've even struck the word "fees". And so, to my knowledge, and I've had my staff check with all of your staffs, and I have...at this point, the understanding that there is no longer any opposition and that you have only received letters of support, including those from the industry. So with that, I will conclude my opening on the amendment to the committee amendment and ask for your support.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Preister. Senator Robinson.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Mr. President, members of the body. I'd urge the adoption of the Preister amendment. This was one concern that some of the people in the business world had a concern with, and Senator Preister has met their concern with this amendment. So I'd urge the adoption of the Preister amendment